



Dear Citizens,

In my Inaugural and State of the City addresses, I promised to start making Baltimore a cleaner city. This week I announced the first stages of my Cleaner Baltimore Initiative. This initiative seeks to improve the efficiency of city services and increasing citizen involvement in making Baltimore a cleaner city. We all want a cleaner Baltimore, and starting today we are going to work together to get it done.

The first step in the Initiative is to make our neighbors aware of the problem. I believe that Baltimore residents should think of the city as an extension of our homes. We will be a happier, healthier and stronger city if our streets, our parks and our neighborhoods are clean and free of litter and debris. I plan on developing and implementing an anti-litter campaign that will remind everyone that Baltimore is our home and we need to keep it clean.

For citizens, the Cleaner Baltimore message will be simple:

- Don't drop garbage in the street.
- Put it where it belongs.
- Pick up litter when you see it.
- Call Public Works if there is a site with large amounts of litter and debris.

The second step is for Baltimore City Government to lead by example, because I will not ask the people of Baltimore to do something that city government is not willing to do. I have asked city Government to focus on bringing a new level of clean to the roads leading into the city, and we will work throughout the year to maintain a higher standard of cleanliness along those gateways to Baltimore. I believe that if city government is clearly committed to the way our community looks, it will inspire a stronger commitment from our citizens.

In the coming months my administration will announce more programs and tools to help us clean the city. Next month, April 21st will be "Spring Clean Day" in Baltimore City. Citizens, civic organizations and city government will join together to help clean Baltimore.

This must be a team effort, but I know it can work and I am committed to making sure that it does. Baltimore is our home, and we will keep it clean.

An Important Note for Parents:

The Maryland School Assessment (MSA) test commences on Tuesday, March 13, 2007. Although every day our educators spend with our students is important, it is no exaggeration that this is one of the most significant moments in the academic year. I am confident that the

Baltimore City Public School System's continuing reforms, its strengthened curriculum, and its instructional focus have our students positioned to do better this year than ever before on these high stakes tests.

During this very intense time for our students and their teachers, let's do our part to be supportive. In the coming days,

- Give teachers and students a rousing pep talk;
- Speak positive and supportive words;
- Encourage students to do their best; and,
- Urge everyone to relax, get plenty of sleep, eat a good breakfast, and be on time for school each day.

With our support and continued encouragement, I know our students will rise to the high expectations we have set for them.

As always, I am interested in what you think about our plan to make our city a more attractive place to LIVE, LEARN, PLAY and EARN. Please [email me](#) your comments or suggestions.

Sincerely,

Sheila Dixon
Mayor
Baltimore

Prevention Wednesday Highlight

Action Today Can Prevent Illness Tomorrow

Baltimore City Employees:

Full-time and permanent part-time employees will be granted up to 4 hours per year to use for cancer screenings.

This time will not be counted toward an employee's sick, personal or vacation time.

To ensure appropriate coverage at the worksite, prior approval from supervisor for the 4-hour leave is required.

For more information, visit [Prevention Wednesday](#) online.

GRANTS AVAILABLE FOR YOUTH-LED COMMUNITY ORGANIZING PROJECTS

**Youth As Recourses,
Baltimore's Youth-Led Grant Making
Organization Has Funds Available!**

Youth (up to age 21) in Baltimore City and County who want to put their community problem solving ideas into action are invited to apply for funding.

Grants range from \$500 - \$3,500 and are available for community organizing projects that are created and carried out by young people.

Youth As Resources is offering grant seeker workshops on **Saturday, March 17 at 10:30 a.m.** and on **Wednesday, March 21 at 5:00 p.m.** Youth applicants are required to attend one of the two workshops and may choose to be accompanied by an adult ally. Application deadline is on **Friday, April 20.**

To sign up for a workshop and/or for more information, please call (410) 576-9551.

Events at the Cylburn Arboretum

March 10, 2007

Cylburn Story Hour and Tour

10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Cylburn Arboretum
4915 Greenspring Ave.
Baltimore, MD 21209
(410) 367-2217

Join the staff at Cylburn Arboretum Mansion for a story hour in the Nature Museum at the Carriage House. Following the reading, children and parents are invited to tour the Nature Museum from 11 a.m. until noon. This is sure to be a fun-filled educational activity for the entire family.

Drop-in Crafts

10:00 a.m.— 12:00 Noon

Cylburn Arboretum
4915 Greenspring Ave.
Baltimore, MD 21209
(410) 367-2217

Two nature craft projects will be available for children and their accompanying adult(s) at this drop-in session in the Mansion. The cost is \$2 to \$3 per child with no pre-registration necessary.

Garden Walk

12:15 p.m.

Cylburn Arboretum

4915 Greenspring Ave.
Baltimore, MD 21209
(410) 367-2217

Join Cylburn's naturalist for a guided walk through the grounds, gardens and trails to see signs of the season. This casual walk is a great time to learn about Cylburn and ask questions about the plants, insects and other wildlife that surround you. This event is FREE and open to the public. No groups please.

Propagation Workshop

March 11, 2007

2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Cylburn Arboretum
4915 Greenspring Ave.
Baltimore, MD 21209
(410) 367-2217

Join instructors at Cylburn Arboretum for a workshop including classroom training and hands-on practice. This lesson will include a horticultural demonstration on propagation with seeds and cuttings. Learn about propagation using houseplants and outdoor plant materials. Recommended for ages 16 and older. Space is limited and registration is required.

Neighborhood Design Center Workshop Series "Retaining Neighborhood Character"

March 12, 2007

Workshop begins at 6:30 p.m.

Representatives from CHAP, City Planning, and other public agencies will discuss various policies and programs and the role of community members

FREE and open to the public

Neighborhood Design Center
1401 Hollins Street
Baltimore MD 21223

To **RSVP** please call 410-233-9686 or e-mail info@ndc-md.org

Neighborhood Tree Steward Training

March 12, 2007

6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

James McHenry Recreation Center

911 Hollins St.
Baltimore, MD 21223
(410) 396-0729

Join members of the Recreation and Parks' Tree Steward Program for a series of workshops on trees in an urban environment and how to take care of them. Recommended for ages 16 and older. The event is FREE and open to the public.

Nature Story Hour

March 15, 2007

10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Cylburn Arboretum
4915 Greenspring Ave.
Baltimore, MD 21209
(410) 367-2217

Children, ages 3-6, are invited to hear stories about the natural world around them. Learn about insects, trees, flowers, birds and other wildlife in an informal setting just for pre-school age children. Weather permitting, a short nature walk will follow story hour. Admission is \$1 per child.

St. Paddy's Day Disco

March 16, 2007

10:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Farring-Baybrook Recreation Center
4501 Farring Court
Baltimore, MD 21225
(410) 396-1550

The Therapeutic Division will celebrate St. Patrick's Day with a Day disco for adults with developmental disabilities who live or work in the community or who attend adult day programs in Baltimore. The program will include music, dancing, door prizes and lunch. Admission is \$7, no charge for accompanying staff. Please R.S.V.P. to Mary Gardner at mary.gardner@baltimorecity.gov or call (410) 396-1550.

St. Patrick's Teen Dance Night

March 16, 2007

7:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.

Locust Point Recreation Center
1627 East Fort Ave.

After-school program participants will enjoy a night of dancing, refreshments and games.

Bingo and Spaghetti Night

March 16, 2007

4:00 p.m.

Northwood SACC
1517 Winford Road
Baltimore, MD 21239
(410) 396-7431

School-Age Child Care participants will play Bingo and eat Spaghetti to promote family fun and appreciation.

St. Patrick's Day Celebration

March 16, 2007

4:00 p.m.

Waverly SACC
800 East 34th St.
Baltimore, MD 21218
(410) 396-6211

School-Age Child Care participants will learn about St. Patrick's Day and its origin.

To find more events in your community, visit Baltimore's Department of Recreation and Parks [Public Events Calendar](#).

You have received this email because you have requested email updates from the Dixon Report, or you have been identified as someone who may be interested. If you no longer wish to receive these updates, simply reply to this email with UNSUBSCRIBE in the subject line.